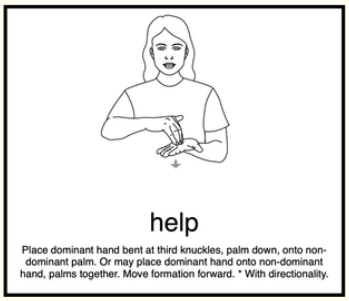
Speech Ease

Key Word Sign

Key word signing is a form of communication that uses a combination of signs and spoken words to support language development and understanding for people who have communication difficulties, such as those with speech or language delays, autism, down syndrome, or other disabilities.

It involves using signs for the most important or key words in a sentence, while speaking the rest of the words aloud. This can help make language more visual, accessible and easier to understand.

Some common key word signs used in speech therapy are “more, finished, help” etc.



Parents, early childhood educators and other professionals may want to use key word sign to help communicate information more effectively to their children. It may also be helpful for children who are none or minimally speaking to be taught key word sign, to aid their communication.

More information on key word sign can be found on SCOPE website https://www.scopeaust.org.au/services-for-individuals/specialised-communication-services/key-word-sign-australia/

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